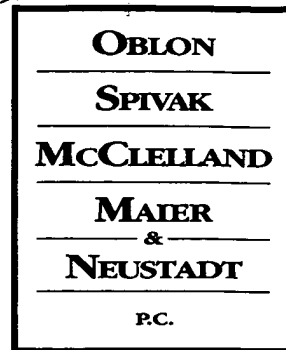


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Docket No.: 206732US0

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/848,318

Applicants: Kengo OKAJIMA

Filing Date: May 4, 2001

For: PROCESS FOR THE PURIFICATION OF
INORGANIC SALT CONTAINING ORGANIC
MATERIAL AND PURIFIED SALT FOR
ELECTROLYSIS OF SODIUM CHLORIDE

Group Art Unit: 1754

Examiner: NGUYEN

SIR:

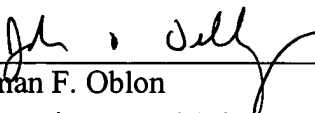
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response to Restriction Requirement

Our check in the amount of _____ is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



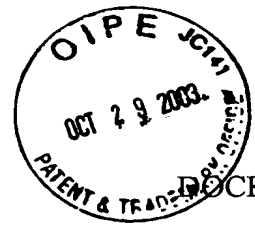
Norman F. Oblon
Registration No. 24,618

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

John D. Dellinger
Registration No. 50,436



DOCKET NO: 206732US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
KENGO OKAJIMA : EXAMINER: NGUYEN, N. Y. M.
SERIAL NO: 09/848,318 :
FILED: MAY 4, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1754
FOR: PROCESS FOR THE :
PURIFICATION OF INORGANIC SALT
CONTAINING ORGANIC MATERIAL
AND PURIFIED SALT FOR
ELECTROLYSIS OF SODIUM CHLORIDE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated October 3, 2003, Applicants respectfully elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-13 and 15-28. Additionally, Applicants elect, for examination purposes only, the species of halide of alkaline metal and alkaline earth metal, as disclosed in the present specification on page 10, lines 9 and 10. Corresponding claims are Claims 1-13 and 15-28.

REMARKS

The Office Action as issued required restriction between Claims 1-3 and 15-28 (drawn to a process for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material, classified in class 423, subclass 462+) and Claims 14 and 29 (drawn to a purified salt, classified in class 423, subclass 499.4+). It was noticed that Claims 4 -14 were absent from